

G-5's "Eye on AMC" U.S. Army Materiel Command

Essential in Peace, Indispensable in War

October 29, 2004

AMC highlights equipment, capabilities at AUSA

The Army Materiel Command showcased its key role in supporting the Global War on Terrorism with its exhibit during the Association of the U.S. Army's Annual Meeting Oct. 25 to 27 at the Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C.

AMC's exhibit featured several technologies including the VIGILANTE unmanned aerial vehicle; an unmanned ground vehicle; an up-armored HMMWV and the Vehicle-class Body Armor Support System; and the DAGGER, which is a fully functional, high-performance, man-wearable embedded training/mission rehearsal system for dismounted and mounted infantry.

In addition, AMC showcased the Army's Future Force Warrior and Future Warrior Concept, which is the Army's concept of the Soldier in 2010 and 2025, respectively.

Blue Grass supports hurricane relief effort

Blue Grass Army Depot in eastern Kentucky is continuing to support the Federal Emergency Management Agency as FEMA provides relief to the victims of Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Ivan and Jeanne.

The depot was asked on Sept. 9 to serve as a trailer staging area as part of FEMA's relief effort for Florida residents. Blue Grass provided the space to park nearly 1,300 travel trailers and mobile homes. Between the hurricanes and their aftermath of storms and flooding, FEMA shipped trailers and mobile homes around the clock. By the end of the month, 610 homes and trailers remained at the depot. Because of the impact of Hurricane Jeanne, Blue Grass was asked to extend its support to the relief effort through at least Oct. 31.

The depot's support has not been limited to acreage for parking. Blue Grass has also supplied the relief team with contracting support, generators, light sets, escort services, fuel, and communications links. Soldiers from the 29th Infantry Division of the Maryland National Guard, who are augmenting security at the depot, have played a key role in escorting, guiding and assisting the contractors who have moved the trailers on and off the installation.

Umatilla successfully destroys liquid chemical agent

The Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility began using one of its two liquid incinerators to destroy GB agent. The incinerator started the 11-hour process of destroying nearly 560 gallons of chemical agent Oct. 17. The procedure marks the first time the device has been used to burn agent at the facility.

To begin burning chemical agent, plant operators had to achieve a minimum of 500 gallons of agent stored in one of two holding tanks. Each rocket contains about one gallon of GB agent; therefore, more than 500 rockets needed to be processed.

"The beginning of agent feed to the liquid incinerator is a major milestone," said Doug Hamrick, UMCDF project general manager. "It represents the final destruction step of the agent from the rockets previously in the deactivation furnace and the complete elimination of the risk associated with those individual munitions. There is nothing left to harm the public or impact the environment."

This activity is part of the UMCDF's 90-day start-up plan, which focuses on a slow, deliberate process of operating in a safe and environmentally compliant manner and not on a production schedule.

Did you know...

Gen. Paul J. Kern, AMC commanding general, recently authored a book titled, "got it? some thoughts on future logistics" – a candid look at what future logistics might look like.